

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual Financial Disclosure Statements of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, 135 Cannon House Office Building, within 15 days after travel is completed. Please do not file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Name of Traveler: Michael Brownlie
2. a. Name of accompanying relative: \_\_\_\_\_ or None ☒  
b. Relationship to Traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
3. a. Dates of departure and return: Departure: 2/13/16 Return: 2/21/16  
b. Dates at personal expense (if any): \_\_\_\_\_ or None ☒
4. Departure city: DC Destination: Israel Return city: DC
5. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
6. Describe meetings and events attended: \_\_\_\_\_  
Educational, economic, cultural, defense, and foreign policy briefings and meetings with various aspects of Israeli civil society and government. Also met with State and PA representatives.
7. Attached to this form are EACH of the following (*signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*):  
a. ☒ a completed Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form;  
b. ☒ the Primary Trip Sponsor Form completed by the trip sponsor prior to the trip, including all attachments and Grantmaking or Non-Grantmaking Sponsor Forms;  
c. ☒ page 2 of the completed Traveler Form submitted by the employee; *and*  
d. ☒ the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda. (*Signify that statement is true by checking box*): ☒  
b. If not, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE OF TRAVELER: [Signature] DATE: 03/7/16

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure form were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

NAME OF SUPERVISING MEMBER: Kyrsten Sinema DATE: 03/7/16

SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING MEMBER: [Signature]

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

☒ Original ☐ Amendment

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. *A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within 10 days of their return.* You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

1. Sponsor(s) (who paid for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. Travel Destination(s): Israel
3. Date of Departure: February 13, 2016 Date of Return: February 21, 2016
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): Please see attached  
(NOTE: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.)
5. **Actual amount** of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in response to Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$2,032.22	\$1,662.00	\$865.05	\$2,122.18 (breakdown attached)
Accompanying Relative	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. (Signify statement is true by checking box): ☒

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: [Signature]

Name: Richard Fishman Title: Executive Director

Organization: American Israel Education Foundation(AIEF)

I am an officer of the above-named organization (signify statement is true by checking box): ☒

Address: 251 H Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

Telephone number: (202) 639-5233

Email Address: rfishman@aiefdn.org

*Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.*

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at (202) 225-7103.

#### 4. Names of Travelers

1. Adam Abramson, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Yvette Clarke (D-NY)
2. Darren Achord, Deputy Chief of Staff/ Legislative Director, Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA)
3. Michael Brownlie, Legislative Deputy Chief of Staff, Rep. Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ)
4. James Burchfield, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Steve Chabot (R-OH)
5. Collin Davenport, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Gerald Connolly (D-VA)
6. Jacci Guy, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Steve Pearce (R-NM)
7. Scott Johnson, Committee Staffer, Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI)
8. Octavian Jordan, Legislative Assistant, Rep. David McKinley (R-WV)
9. Solara Linehan, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID)
10. Julie Merberg, Legislative Director, Rep. Filemon Vela (D-TX)
11. David Rosenbaum, Legislative Director, Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV)
12. Cate Sadler, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Ander Crenshaw (R-FL)
13. Vincent Sarubbi, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Donald Norcross (D-NJ)

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
U.S. Congressional Staff  
February 13-21, 2016**

**Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Security: \$900 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$350 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Tour Guide: \$182.50 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Tour Guide/Driver/Security Hotels: \$150 per person

Room Rentals: \$127.50 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Other: \$97.50 per person

-Water, snacks

-Briefing materials

Tour Guide/Driver/Security/Speaker Meals: \$90 per person

Tips: \$75 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border \$30 per person

Entrance Fees: \$35 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**U.S. Congressional Staff**  
**February 13-21, 2016**

**Breakdown of Other Expenses**

Security: \$844.20 per person

-AIEF considers the security of its trip participants as its highest priority. A security team accompanies all participants throughout the trip.

Speaker Fees: \$395 per person

-Honoraria for guest speakers

Tour Guide: \$218.14 per person

-As a detailed historical understanding is crucial to maximizing the educational aspect of the trip, a licensed tour guide accompanies the group throughout the trip.

Tour Guide/Driver/Security Hotels: \$181.03 per person

Tour Guide/Driver/Security/Speaker Meals: \$157.54 per person

Room Rentals: \$115.90 per person

-The cost of renting rooms at hotels and restaurants for meetings and meals with speakers.

Other: \$64.24 per person

-Water, snacks

-Briefing materials

Entrance Fees: \$50.36 per person

-Several sites require an entrance fee, including the southern Western Wall excavations and the holy sites around the Sea of Galilee.

Transportation for guests: \$44.18 per person

Transportation for individualized tour of Syrian/Israel border \$45.20 per person

Tips: \$6.40 per person

-It is customary to tip the driver and tour guide that accompany trip participants.

**U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics**

**TRAVELER FORM**

1. Name of Traveler: Michael Brownlie
2. Sponsor(s) (who will be paying for the trip): American Israel Education Foundation
3. Travel destination(s): Israel
4. a. Date of departure 2/13/16 Date of return: 2/21/16  
b. Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
If yes, dates at personal expense: \_\_\_\_\_
5. a. Will you be accompanied by a relative at the sponsor's expense? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
b. If yes:  
(1) Name of accompanying relative: \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) Relationship to traveler: ☐ Spouse ☐ Child ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) Accompanying relative is at least 18 years of age: ☐ Yes ☐ No
6. a. Did the trip sponsor answer "yes" to Question 9(d) on the Primary Trip Sponsor Form (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent and you are requesting lodging for two nights)? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
b. If yes, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Primary Trip Sponsor Form is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and contributing sponsor forms: ☒ Yes ☐ No  
NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.  
Traveler is foreign policy advisor for member of Congress. Trip will  
provide necessary insight and needed perspective on important foreign  
policy issues. Traveler is Deputy Chief of Staff.
9. Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in planning, organizing, requesting, and/or arranging the trip? ☐ Yes ☒ No
10. **FOR STAFF TRAVELERS:**  
**TO BE COMPLETED BY YOUR EMPLOYING MEMBER:**

**ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL**

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Date: 1/14/16

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Employing Member

U.S. House of Representatives  
Committee on Ethics

**PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM**

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a Traveler Form at least 30 days before the start date of the trip. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee Web site ([ethics.house.gov](http://ethics.house.gov)) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.**

1. Sponsor (who will be paying for the trip): \_\_\_\_\_  
American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed (in whole or in part) by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒
3. Check only one: I represent that:
  - a. the primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip ☒ *or*
  - b. the trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds ☐ *or*
  - c. the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities. ☐If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary):  
Please see attached
5. Is travel being offered to an accompanying relative of the House invitee(s)? ☐ Yes ☒ No
6. Date of departure: February 13, 2016 Date of return: February 21, 2016
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C.  
b. Destination(s): Israel  
c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
8. I represent that (check one of the following):
  - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: ☐ *or*
  - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: ☒ *or*
  - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist/foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations. ☐
9. Check one of the following:
  - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above: ☒
  - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging: ☐
  - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night: ☐ *or*
  - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights: ☐If "d" is checked, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted: \_\_\_\_\_



10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities the House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees) (indicate agenda is attached by checking box): ☒
11. Check one:
- I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒ or
  - N/A – trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education. ☐
12. For each sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip and its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:  
AIEF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with the fundamental purpose of educating policy makers  
and opinion leaders about the U.S.-Israel relationship. AIEF is solely responsible for recruiting,  
coordinating, executing and funding all aspects of this trip.
13. Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary.
- Mode of travel: Air ☒ Rail ☐ Bus ☐ Car ☐ Other ☐ (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
  - Class of travel: Coach ☒ Business ☐ First ☐ Charter ☐ Other ☐ (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)
  - If travel will be first class or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:  
n/a
14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒
15. I represent that either (check one of the following):
- The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees: ☐ or
  - The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation: ☒  
 If "b" is checked:
    - Detail the cost per day of meals (approximate cost may be provided): \_\_\_\_\_  
\$120 per day
    - Provide reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: \_\_\_\_\_  
The trip will take place in Israel in order to educate congressional staff  
about the U.S.-Israel relationship.
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- |  |                        |                              |
|--|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Hotel name: <u>Mamilla</u>                                 | City: <u>Jerusalem</u> | Cost per night: <u>\$334</u> |
| Reason(s) for selecting: <u>location and affordability</u> |                        |                              |
| Hotel name: <u>Sheraton</u>                                | City: <u>Tel Aviv</u>  | Cost per night: <u>\$242</u> |
| Reason(s) for selecting: <u>location and affordability</u> |                        |                              |
| Hotel name: <u>Galei Kinneret</u>                          | City: <u>Tiberias</u>  | Cost per night: <u>\$176</u> |
| Reason(s) for selecting: <u>location and affordability</u> |                        |                              |



17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. (signify that the statement is true by checking box): ☒

18. TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EACH PARTICIPANT:

<input type="checkbox"/> actual amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good faith estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$1,956	\$1,662	\$840
For each accompanying relative	n/a	n/a	n/a

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or employee	\$2,037.50	breakdown attached
For each accompanying relative	n/a	n/a


**NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.**

19. Check one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below. ☒ or  
b. N/A – sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education. ☐

20. I certify that I am not a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent for any sponsor of this trip. ☒

21. I certify by my signature that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: 

Name:

Keath Blatt

Title:

In-House Counsel

Organization:

American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)

Address:

251 H Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001

Telephone number:

(202) 639-5333

Email address:

kblatt@aiefdn.org

If there are any questions regarding this form please contact the Committee at the following address:

Committee on Ethics  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
(202) 225-7103 (phone)  
(202) 225-7392 (general fax)

Charles W. Dent, Pennsylvania  
*Chairman*  
Linda T. Sánchez, California  
*Ranking Member*

Patrick Meehan, Pennsylvania  
Trey Gowdy, South Carolina  
Susan W. Brooks, Indiana  
Kenny Marchant, Texas

Michael E. Capuano, Massachusetts  
Yvette D. Clarke, New York  
Ted Deutch, Florida  
John B. Larson, Connecticut



ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

## U.S. House of Representatives

### COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

February 10, 2016

Thomas A. Rust  
*Staff Director and Chief Counsel*

Joanne White  
*Administrative Staff Director*

Clifford C. Stoddard, Jr.  
*Counsel to the Chairman*

Daniel J. Taylor  
*Counsel to the Ranking Member*

1015 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328  
Telephone: (202) 225-7103  
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

Mr. Michael Brownlie  
Office of the Honorable Krysten Sinema  
1530 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Brownlie:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Israel<sup>1</sup> scheduled for February 13 to 21, 2016, sponsored by American Israel Education Foundation.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$375 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts "of minimal value [currently \$375] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy" by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

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<sup>1</sup> The U.S. Department of State has issued a warning concerning travel to Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza, available at <http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings/israel-travel-warning.html>. That warning was updated on July 21, 2014. You may wish to contact the State Department regarding the safety of your proposed trip.

Mr. Michael Brownlie  
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Dent  
Chairman



Linda T. Sánchez  
Ranking Member

CWD/LTS:kd

**American Israel Education Foundation  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
U.S. Congressional Staff  
February 13-21, 2016**

**FINAL ITINERARY**

**Saturday, February 13, 2016**

6:25 PM        Depart Washington, D.C.

8:01 PM        Arrive at JFK

11:59 PM       Depart JFK

**Sunday, February 14, 2016**

6:10 PM        Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport

8:00 PM        Check into the Mamilla Hotel

8:30 PM        *Welcome and Orientation*  
- at the hotel, Meeting Room AB

8:45 PM        *The Pulse of Israel Today*  
Dinner with Matti Friedman  
Author and Journalist  
- at the hotel, Meeting Room AB

10:00 PM       Dinner ends

10:15 PM       *Welcome to Jerusalem*  
Understanding Jerusalem's Historic Basin  
-at the Mamilla rooftop overlook

10:30 PM       Overnight at the Mamilla Hotel

**Monday, February 15, 2016**

7:45 AM        Breakfast is served  
- at the hotel, Happy Fish Restaurant

8:00 AM        *Israeli Politics Primer*  
Breakfast with Professor Reuven Hazan  
Professor of Political Science Department Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
- at the hotel, Happy Fish Restaurant

9:00 AM	Session concludes
9:15 AM	Depart
9:30 AM	<i>A Model for Coexistence</i> Visit to Hand in Hand School Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel
10:30 AM	Depart
11:00 AM	<i>Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part I:</i> The Old City and Holy Basin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Southern Wall Excavations</li> <li>▪ Western Wall</li> <li>▪ Via Dolorosa</li> <li>▪ Church of the Holy Sepulcher</li> </ul>
1:30 PM	Lunch - at Golden Panoramic
2:30 PM	Survey continues
3:30 PM	Depart for the Knesset Security Check
4:15 PM	<i>Israeli Democracy in Action</i> Meetings with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Honorable Maj.-Gen. (Ret.) Avi Dichter Member of Knesset, Likud Party</li> <li>▪ The Honorable Dr. Nachman Shai, Member of Knesset, Zionist Union Party</li> </ul> - at the Knesset, Negev Hall
5:45 PM	Return to hotel
7:00 PM	Depart for dinner
7:30 PM	<i>Colleague to Colleague</i> Dinner with Knesset Staffers and Advisors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inbal Avnon, Zionist Union Party</li> <li>▪ Uri Perednick, Likud Party</li> <li>▪ Omri Sheinfeld, Kulanu Party</li> <li>▪ Yair Zivan, Yesh Atid Party</li> </ul> - at Touro
9:30 PM	Overnight at the Mamilla Hotel

**Tuesday, February 16, 2016**

7:30 AM Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall

8:30 AM Depart for Yad Vashem

9:00 AM *The Role of the Holocaust in Israeli Society*  
Guided tour of Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

11:15 AM Depart

12:00 PM *A View from the Palestinian Authority*  
Lunch with Nidal Foqaha  
Director General, Palestinian Peace Coalition/ Geneva Initiative  
- at the American Colony Hotel, Pasha Hall

1:30 PM Depart

2:30 PM *Strategic Survey of Jerusalem – Part II:*  
The Security Barrier and Post-1967 Neighborhoods

3:30 PM Survey ends

4:00 PM *A View from the Palestinian Street*  
Meeting with Khaled Abu Toameh  
Palestinian Affairs Correspondent, *The Jerusalem Post*

5:00 PM Depart for Tel Aviv

6:30 PM Check into the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

7:30 PM Depart for dinner

8:00 PM *Regional Threats Overview*  
Dinner with Avi Issacharoff  
Middle East Analyst, *The Times of Israel*  
- at Shulchan

10:00 PM Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel

**Wednesday, February 17, 2016**

7:45 AM Breakfast is served  
- at the hotel, Topaz Hall

8:00 AM      *U.S. Embassy Briefing*  
Breakfast with Marc Nordberg  
Deputy Political Counselor, U.S. Embassy, Tel Aviv  
- at the hotel, Topaz Hall

9:00 AM      Session ends

9:15 AM      Depart

9:45 AM      *Dealing with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)*  
Visit to NATAL – Israel’s Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War

10:45 AM     Depart for Israel’s South

12:00 PM     Lunch  
- at Netachim

1:00 PM      Depart

1:15 PM      *Life Under Rocket Fire*  
Briefings on Israel’s Border with the Gaza Strip  
▪ Overlook into Gaza at Nir Am  
▪ Visit to Kibbutz Kfar Azza, tour with Ralph Lewinsohn, Kibbutz Resident

3:00 PM      Depart for Tel Aviv

4:30 PM      *Regional Threat Assessment*  
Briefing with Lt. Col. Richard Hecht  
- at the Ministry of Defense

5:30 PM      Depart for hotel

7:00 PM      Depart for dinner

7:30 PM      *Start-Up Nation*  
Dinner with Israeli Entrepreneurs  
▪ Doron Davidson, CEO and Co-Founder, SecBi  
▪ Shira Eting, Fellow, Israel NewTech Program, Ministry of Economy  
▪ Tzameret Fuerst , Co-Founder, PrePex  
▪ Alon Metrikin-Gold, Partnership Manager, MobileODT  
- at Deca

9:30 PM      Overnight at the Sheraton Tel Aviv Hotel



**Thursday, February 18, 2016**

8:00 AM Breakfast is served  
- at the hotel, Topaz Hall

8:15 AM *The Iran Deal: Israel After Implementation Day*  
Breakfast with Dr. Emily Landau  
Senior Research Associate and Director of the Arms Control and  
Regional Security Program, The Institute for National Security Studies  
- at the hotel, Topaz Hall

9:30 AM Depart for Israel's North

10:30 AM *Israel's Narrow Border*  
Briefing at Alfei Menashe  
With Tom Sawicki, Director of Programming

11:15 AM Depart

En route briefings:

- The Jezreel Valley – The strategic land bridge connecting Asia and Africa
- Upper Galilee – Potential for development

1:00 PM Lunch  
- at Humus Eliyahu in Rosh Pina

2:00 PM Depart

2:30 PM *Treating the Victims of the Syrian Civil Conflict*  
Visit to Ziv Medical Center

3:30 PM Depart

4:00 PM *Hezbollah Next Door*  
Strategic briefing on the border with Lebanon  
With Maj. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi, Northern Border Expert  
- at Dovev

5:00 PM Depart

6:00 PM Check into Galei Kinneret Hotel

7:15 PM Depart for dinner

7:30 PM      *Northern Exposure*  
Israeli life on the border with Lebanon and Syria  
Dinner and discussion  
- at Decks

9:30 PM      Overnight at Galei Kinneret Hotel

**Friday, February 19, 2016**

8:00 AM      Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall

8:30 AM      Depart

9:00 AM      *Historical, Religious and Geopolitical Significance of the Sea of Galilee*  
▪ Galilee Boat Museum  
▪ Mt. of Beatitudes – Sermon on the Mount  
▪ Primacy of Peter Church  
▪ Capernaum – Jesus' Home

11:00 AM      Depart for the Golan Heights

12:00 PM      *The Tragedy in Syria*  
Strategic guided survey of the Israeli-Syrian border  
- at Kibbutz Ein Zivan

1:15 PM      Survey ends

1:30 PM      Lunch  
- at Ha'Bokrim

2:30 PM      Travel back to Jerusalem via the Jordan Valley

En route briefings:

- Israel's Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
- Jordan's Syrian Refugee Crisis

5:30 PM      Check into the Mamilla Hotel

6:45 PM      Depart for dinner

7:00 PM      *Significance of the Sabbath in Jerusalem*  
Traditional Sabbath eve dinner  
Hosted by Rabbis Matthew and Miriam Berkowitz  
- at the Berkowitz home in Jerusalem

9:00 PM      Overnight at the Mamilla Hotel

**Saturday, February 20, 2016**

8:00 AM      Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, Main Dining Hall

8:30 AM      Depart  
  
En route briefing:  
*Jericho Road and the E-1 Corridor: Strategic Concerns*

10:00 AM      *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*  
Visit to Masada National Archaeological Park

11:30 AM      Depart

12:30 PM      Lunch  
- at Hod Hotel

1:00 PM      *Israel's Experience in Fighting the Encroachment of Desertification*  
Visit to the Dead Sea  
- at Hod Hotel

2:30 PM      Depart for Jerusalem

4:30 PM      Return to hotel

6:00 PM      *The U.S. – Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together*  
Closing dinner  
- at the hotel, Meeting Room AB

8:00 PM      Depart for Ben-Gurion Airport

11:35 PM      Depart Ben Gurion

**Sunday, February 21, 2016**

5:01 AM Arrive JFK

8:40 AM Depart JFK

9:55 AM Arrive Washington, D.C.

**American Israel Education Foundation  
Educational Seminar in Israel  
U.S. Congressional Staff  
February 13-21, 2016**

**Itinerary**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2016**

6:25 PM      Depart Washington, D.C. (DCA)

8:01 PM      Arrive at JFK

11:59 PM     Depart JFK

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2016**

5:30 PM      Arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport  
                 Transfer to Jerusalem  
                 Check into Mamilla Hotel

7:00 PM      *Welcome and Orientation*  
                 - at the hotel

7:30 PM      *The Pulse of Israel Today*  
                 Dinner with Matti Friedman, Author and Journalist  
                 - at the hotel

**Matti Freidman**

The opening dinner features Matti Freidman, a renowned reporter with a career that has taken him from Lebanon to Morocco, Cairo, Moscow and Washington, D.C., and to conflicts in Israel in the Caucasus. Mr. Friedman is a dynamic and insightful speaker who will provide the group an illuminating synthesis of domestic political trends, current international affairs and the general state of mind of the Israeli citizens.

9:00 PM      Dinner ends

*Welcome to Jerusalem*

A brief moonlit walking tour by the walls of the Old City

**Jerusalem**

Throughout its 4000 year history, the city of Jerusalem has changed hands many times. As home to the world's three great monotheistic religions -- Judaism, Christianity and Islam -- each of which has its imprint on the city, Jerusalem is probably the most disputed city in history.

Today, the status of Jerusalem remains the most contentious issue in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Jerusalem has been at the heart of all recent Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, from the Oslo Accords to the Camp David Summit to the Taba negotiations, and to the most recent talks under the auspices of the U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. To understand the current political issues, it is critical to understand Jerusalem's history and the role it has played in shaping the Middle East. This seminar will include site visits to various locations in and around Jerusalem to gain a first-hand look at the historic significance of the city, as well as its geographic layout.

10:00 PM      Overnight at Mamilla Hotel

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2016**

7:45 AM      Breakfast served

8:00 AM      *Israeli Politics Primer*  
Breakfast with Professor Reuven Hazan,  
Political Science Department, Hebrew University  
- at the hotel

**Professor Reuven Hazan**

It is critical for trip participants to have an understanding of the parliamentary system in Israel. Professor Hazan explains how the parliamentary party system works, how coalitions rise and fall, and how Israeli politics differ from American politics. Since the group will be visiting with government officials throughout the week, we believe it's important to provide this overview early in the seminar.

9:00 AM      Session concludes

9:15 AM      Depart for Strategic Survey of Jerusalem  
Part I: *The Old City and the Holy Basin*

**Old City of Jerusalem & the Holy Basin**

The Old City of Jerusalem is home to the holiest shrines of the three monotheistic religions, including the Temple Mount, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, and the Al-Aqsa Mosque. During the Camp David II talks, the Palestinians and Israelis differed on the Jerusalem question, namely the Old City, the status of Arab neighborhoods just outside the Old City, and religious sites such as the Temple Mount.

The Holy Basin is the historic location of Jerusalem and refers to the land surrounding the Old City, including the Mount of Olives, which is believed to be the departure point for Jesus' final entry into Jerusalem and where Jews have been burying their dead for 2,500 years. The Holy Basin also includes the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, and the Temple Mount (Haram al-

Sharif), sacred ground for Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Control over these sensitive areas remains among the largest disputes in the Middle East.

The professionally guided survey will walk through all of these sites and others, educating trip participants on their historical impact and their role in today's political discussions.

- 12:30 PM      Survey ends
- 12:45 PM      Lunch in the Old City
- 1:30 PM      Depart
- 2:15 PM      *Bilingual Education in Israel*  
Visit to the Hand In Hand School  
Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel

#### **Hand in Hand Center for Jewish-Arab Education**

The mission of Hand in Hand Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel is to create a strong, inclusive, shared society in Israel through a network of Jewish-Arab integrated bilingual schools and organized communities. A recipient of USAID, Hand in Hand currently operates 5 schools throughout Israel attended by 1100 students, with a goal of 15 schools nation-wide over the next decade. The Max Rayne Hand in Hand School in Jerusalem is the first school opened by Hand in Hand, as well as its largest. The visit to the Yad b'Yad school in Jerusalem will be an opportunity to explore Israel's education system, prevailing divisions within Israeli society, the challenges of teaching a fractured student body with often dueling historical narratives and how the Hand in Hand model seeks to shape prospects for co-existence both today, and for those who will take the mantle in the future.

- 3:30 PM      Depart for the Knesset  
Security check
- 4:15 PM      *Israeli Democracy in Action*  
Meetings with Members of Knesset from different parties
- 5:45 PM      Depart , return to hotel
- 7:00 PM      Depart for dinner
- 7:30 PM      *Colleague to Colleague*  
Dinner with Knesset Staffers from different parties
- 9:00 PM      Overnight at Mamilla Hotel



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

- 8:00 AM      Breakfast on own in the main dining room  
                 Luggage in the lobby  
                 Check out
- 8:30 AM      Depart
- 9:00 AM      *The Meaning of the Holocaust in the Israeli Psyche*  
                 Guided tour of the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial and Museum

**Yad Vashem**

One cannot understand Israel's position on Iran's nuclear development program without understanding the trauma of the Holocaust. Israelis view threats to its destruction in light of the events of the 1930s and 1940s, when the German government's threats to exterminate the Jewish people were not taken seriously by the international community. This museum provides an important reference point as to how Israelis interpret the threat of an Iranian nuclear program and Iranian leaders committed to Israel's destruction.

Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, was established in 1953 by an act of the Israeli Knesset. Since its inception, Yad Vashem has been entrusted with documenting the history of the Jewish people during the Holocaust period, preserving the memory and story of each of the six million victims, and imparting the legacy of the Holocaust for generations to come through its archives, library, school, museums and recognition of the Righteous Among the Nations. Located on Har Hazikaron (the Mount of Remembrance) in Jerusalem, Yad Vashem is a sprawling complex of museums, exhibits, archives, monuments, sculptures, and memorials.

Every foreign leader that travels to Israel visits Yad Vashem. Yad Vashem has become a symbol of the Jewish people and its transformation from total helplessness to self-reliance and strength. Thus, a visit to Yad Vashem provides a historical context for the Jewish state. The museum's professional docent will guide the group through the main exhibit hall and the children's memorial.

- 11:15 AM      Tour ends  
                 Depart
- 12:00 PM      *A View From the Palestinian Authority*  
                 Lunch with a representative of the PLO
- 1:30 PM      Depart
- 2:30 PM      Depart for Strategic Survey of Jerusalem  
                 Part II: *The Security Barrier and Post-1967 Neighborhoods*

### **Post-1967 Neighborhoods**

When Jerusalem was reunified in 1967, following 19 years of division, the State of Israel extended the city's boundaries to include the strategic hills surrounding Jerusalem. These hills served as launching pads between 1948-1967 for sniper and mortar attacks on Israeli parts of the city by the Jordanian Army. Since 1967, these hills have become vibrant neighborhoods, fully integrated into the fabric of Jerusalem. It is vital for those discussing the issue of Jerusalem to understand these neighborhoods' strategic importance and their relationship to the areas in the immediate vicinity.

### **Security Barrier**

After scores of suicide bombings and daily terrorist attacks against its civilians launched following the breakdown of the Camp David II talks, Israel began construction of a security barrier near the pre-1967 "Green Line" between Israel and the West Bank to prevent Palestinian terrorists from infiltrating into Israeli population centers. Since its construction began, the number of attacks declined by more than 90% and the number of Israelis murdered and wounded decreased by more than 70% and 85%, respectively. The barrier is approximately 455 miles long. To Israel, the security barrier serves as a necessary obstacle to protect its people. To the Palestinians and others in the world, the barrier represents a physical and symbolic divide.

This seminar will survey the security barrier at different points along its route to see first-hand the barrier's construction, the operation of crossing points in and out of Palestinian areas, and the technology that facilitates its operation. Both en route to the barrier and at the barrier itself, the group will explore the competing arguments raised by the Israelis, Palestinians and the international community.

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 3:30 PM | Survey ends   |
| 4:00 PM | <i>A View From the Palestinian Street</i><br>Coffee with Khaled Abu Toameh, Palestinian Affairs<br>Correspondent, "The Jerusalem Post"<br>- at the office |
| 5:00 PM | Session ends<br>Depart, travel to Tel Aviv  |
| 6:30 PM | Check into Sheraton Tel Aviv  |
| 7:30 PM | Depart for dinner   |
| 8:00 PM | <i>Regional Threats Overview</i><br>Dinner with Avi Issacharoff, Mideast Analyst, <i>The Times of Israel</i>  |
| 9:30 PM | Overnight at Tel Aviv Sheraton  |

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016**

- 7:45 AM Breakfast served
- 8:00 AM *U.S. Embassy Briefing* .  
- at the hotel / private room
- 9:00 AM Session ends
- 9:15 AM Depart
- 9:45 AM *Save A Child's Heart – Cardiac Care for Children*  
Visit to Wolfson Medical Center and Children's Rehabilitation Center

**Save a Child's Heart**

Save a Child's Heart (SACH) is an Israeli-based international, non-profit organization. SACH is committed to saving lives by improving the quality of cardiac care for children from developing countries and creating centers of medical competence in these countries. SACH Israel has saved the lives of over 3,700 children from 50 countries where adequate medical care is simply unavailable. Approximately 50% of these children are from the Palestinian Authority, Jordan, Iraq and Morocco (countries with whom Israel has either no diplomatic relations or who are in a state of war with Israel). More than 30% are from Africa, and the remainder are from Asia, Eastern Europe and the Americas. These children are treated at the Wolfson Medical Center and housed at the Legacy Heritage Children's Home of Save a Child's Heart, both located in Holon.

- 11:15 AM Depart for Israel's South
- 12:30 PM Lunch  
- at Netachim
- 1:15 PM Depart
- 1:30 PM *Life Under Rocket Fire*  
Briefings on Israel's Border with the Gaza Strip  
- Overlook into Gaza at Nir Am  
- Meeting with residents and tour of Kibbutz Kfar Aza on the border with Gaza

**Israel's Southern Front**

Since 2001, Israeli communities bordering the Gaza Strip have been living under the threat of rocket fire. Since the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005 and the Hamas takeover of the Gaza Strip in 2007, the volume, range and accuracy of the rockets has only increased. The summer of 2014 witnessed Operation Protective Edge, which returned the issue of rocket fire from Gaza to international headlines. The visit to Kibbutz Kfar Azza and meeting with a local resident will be an opportunity to better understand the reality of living just kilometers from

Israel's border with Gaza, to learn how almost 15 years of rocket fire has shaped those living in the communities most affected, to discuss the advent of Hamas "terror tunnels" into Israel's border towns and how communities have sought to cope with the threat on their doorstep, both physically and psychologically.

3:00 PM Depart, travel back to Tel Aviv

4:30 PM *Regional Threats Assessment*  
Briefing by an IDF Officer  
- at the Ministry of Defense

5:30 PM Session ends  
Return to hotel

7:00 PM Depart for dinner

7:30 PM *Start-Up Nation*  
Dinner with Israeli Entrepreneurs  
- at Shulchan

9:00 PM Overnight at Sheraton Tel Aviv

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2016**

7:45 AM Luggage in the lobby  
Check out

8:00 AM Breakfast served

8:15 AM *Israel After JCPOA*  
Breakfast with Dr. Emily Landau,  
Senior Research Fellow, Institute for National Security Studies  
- at the hotel

9:30 AM Depart, travel north

10:30 AM *Israel's Narrow Borders*  
Briefing at Alfei Menashe

11:15 AM Depart

1:00 PM Lunch  
- at Humus Eliyahu in Rosh Pina

2:00 PM      Depart

2:30 PM      *Treating the Victims of the Syrian Conflict*  
Visit to the Ziv Hospital in Safed

**The Ziv Medical Center**

The Ziv Medical Center is situated in the heart of Israel's rural northern landscape and provides health care services and treatment for the north's ethnically and religiously diverse population. Since February 2013, Israel has taken in Syrians wounded in the course of the civil war currently being waged in that country. Many are treated at a field hospital on the border, where soldiers and paramedics of the IDF on the Israeli Golan Heights give them initial first aid and life- saving care. The Syrian wounded then either return to Syria, or are taken to an Israeli hospital to receive further treatment. Ziv Hospital is one such hospital, and has treated nearly five hundred victims of the Syrian conflict. At Ziv, the Syrian wounded, including children, civilians and militants alike, are provided with the best possible care from Israeli physicians using state of the art medical equipment. Although Israel and Syria have been in a state of war for decades, the Israeli doctors and staff at Ziv provide humanitarian aid for the wounded without regard for the patients' political or military affiliation. These efforts have been supported by The Israeli Health Department, which has spent well over 5 million dollars treating the wounded.

3:30 PM      Depart

4:00 PM      *Hizballah Next Door*  
Briefing on the border with Lebanon  
With Maj. (Res.) Sarit Zehavi  
- at Dovev

5:00 PM      Depart

6:00 PM      Check into Galei Kineret Hotel

7:15 PM      Depart for dinner

7:30 PM      *Northern Exposure*  
Israeli Life on the Border with Lebanon and Syria  
Dinner and Discussion  
- at Decks

9:30 PM      Overnight at Galei Kineret Hotel

### **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2016**

- 8:00 AM      Breakfast on own at the main dining room  
                 Luggage in the lobby  
                 Check out
- 8:30 AM      Depart
- 9:00 AM      *Historical and Religious Significance of the Sea of Galilee*  
                 Visit to:  
                 - Mt. of Beatitudes  
                 - Primacy of Peter Church  
                 - Capernaum – Jesus’s home

#### **Christian Sites at the Sea of Galilee**

As part of the seminar’s focus on the complex religious fabric of Israeli society, the group will be visiting several of the most sacred sites for Christians in the Holy Land. Included is a guided tour and discussion of some of the most important events in the life of Jesus by the Sea of Galilee. Just as strategic tours in Jerusalem focused on Jewish, Muslim, and Christian history and claims to the land, the site visits to the Christian sites help provide context for the competing religious narratives for the land of Israel. For example, we will be visiting the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus delivered the Sermon on the Mount, the most studied and read speech of any religion in history. Our guide will also lead discussions through Capernaum and St. Peter's Church.

- 11:00 AM      Visits end, depart, travel to the Golan Heights
- 12:00 PM      *The Tragedy in Syria*  
                 Strategic guided survey of the Israeli-Syrian border  
                 - at Ein Zivan
- 1:15 PM      Survey ends
- 1:30 PM      Lunch  
                 Joined by IDF soldiers serving on the border  
                 - at Habokrim
- 2:30 PM      Depart for Jerusalem  
                 Travel via the Jordan Valley
- En route briefing:  
                 *Israel’s Relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan*
- 5:30 PM      Check into Mamilla Hotel

- 6:45 PM      Depart
- 7:00 PM      *Significance of the Sabbath in Jerusalem*  
Traditional Sabbath eve dinner with a Jerusalem family
- 9:00 PM      Dinner ends, return to hotel  
Overnight at Mamilla Hotel

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2016**

- 8:00 AM      Breakfast on own  
- at the hotel, main dining room

- 8:30 AM      Depart

En route briefing:

*Israel's Experience in Fighting the Encroachment of Desertification*

**Dead Sea Region**

During our drive to and from the Dead Sea area, as well as during our visit to the Dead Sea, our tour guide will discuss a variety of issues integral to understanding the region, the country, and relations with both the Palestinians and Jordanians.

It is important to note that the region is mostly desert. For decades, Israel has been challenging this arid area and developing its agricultural potential. While the Middle East is suffering from water shortages, Israel, through modern technology and water conservation policies, including the recycling of over 80 percent of water used for domestic purposes and transferring it to agriculture, has literally "made the desert bloom." Some of this technology is already being shared with Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. All sides realize that a comprehensive regional water policy will ensure food production necessary to satisfy the Middle East's growing population. For example, in late 2013, the three parties agreed to build a Red Sea-Dead Sea water project to address the shortage of fresh, clean water in the region and the rapid loss of water at the Dead Sea. This highlights the growing importance for Israel and her Arab neighbors to work together on joint environmental projects.

The key regional players also face serious environmental issues in the Dead Sea region. One of the major environmental concerns is the receding of the Dead Sea and the appearance of sinkholes, which cause the earth above to collapse. Roads, fields and buildings have collapsed due to this phenomenon, and experts are concerned the tourist infrastructure along the Jordanian and Israeli shores of the Dead Sea are also in danger. This issue has led to unprecedented cooperation between Israelis, Jordanians and Palestinians and serves as a model for regional cooperation.



Another important element of the drive on the highway known as the "Jericho Road" is the strategic importance of the area east of Jerusalem. In 1948 and in 1967, the Jordanian army attacked Jerusalem from the east – the 1948 attack resulted in the city's division that lasted until 1967. Since then Israel has established the City of Ma'ale Adumim east of Jerusalem, today home to some 40,000 residents. To the Palestinians, however, Ma'ale Adumim is the largest settlement on the West Bank. When Israel attempted to expand Ma'ale Adumim's boundary, into an area known as "E-1", the U.S. State Department stepped in and asked that no construction take place there. The issue needs to be examined with those discussing the future of Jerusalem in the context of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

10:00 AM      *History and Geopolitics of the Roman Empire*  
Visit to Masada National Archaeological Park

### **Masada**

The Sabbath in Israel begins Friday afternoon and concludes on Saturday evening. During the Sabbath, virtually everything in the country is closed including all government offices, businesses, newspapers etc. Therefore, for years, we have used Fridays Saturdays to expose our Congressional Members and staff delegations to some of the key historical and cultural sites in Israel such as Masada. Masada, which was excavated in the 1960s, is considered one of the most important archeological sites in Israel, indeed in the whole world.

Masada was the site of the last stand of the Jews in Israel after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and the Holy Temple in 70 A.D. A group of Jewish Zealots fled to the Judean Desert and lived in the former mountaintop fortress of King Herod known as Masada for two years resisting the onslaught of the most powerful army in the world. Determined to break the resistance, the Romans finally scaled the mountain to capture and enslave the Jewish rebels. However, when they finally arrived, they found that all the men, women and children had killed themselves as a last act of defiance. They refused to give in to the Romans and become their slaves.

The ancient story of Masada has important contemporary relevance for the modern State of Israel. "Masada shall never fall again" has become the watchword of the country which has faced existential threats since its founding in 1948. Israel's elite military units, for example, are sworn in on top of Masada in a symbolic act of defiance against Israel's contemporary enemies. These soldiers along with the thousands of Israeli school children who visit Masada each year learn the lesson that Israel should never become so weak again that it would ever face national suicide as an option.

We will spend approximately two hours atop of Masada with a professional guide. The time at Masada with the guide is focused on three areas: 1. touring the magnificent ancient excavations; 2. learning the narrative of Jewish resistance to the Romans backed by the archeological and historical evidence; 3. discussing the importance of the Masada story to the contemporary Middle East and the threats in the region.

12:00 PM	Depart
12:30 PM	<i>Exploration of the Dead Sea Region</i> - at Hod Hotel
2:00 PM	Depart for Jerusalem
3:30 PM	Return to hotel Prepare for departure Check out
6:00 PM	<i>The U.S. – Israel Relationship: Bringing it All Together</i> Closing dinner - at the hotel
8:00 PM	Depart for the Airport
11:35 PM	Depart Ben Gurion Airport

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2016**

5:01 AM	Arrive JFK
8:40 AM	Depart JFK
9:55 AM	Arrive Washington, D.C. (DCA)

**American Israel Education Foundation (AIEF)**  
**Educational Seminar in Israel**  
**U.S. Congressional Staff**  
**February 13– 21, 2016**

**List of Invitees**

TITLE	MOC FIRST	MOC LAST	FIRST	LAST	FPLA NOTES	Explanations
Rep.	Yvette	Clarke	Adam	Abramson	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Yvette Clarke, a member of the relevant Energy and Commerce Committee.
Rep.	Steve	Scalise	Darren	Achord	Deputy Chief of Staff, Legislative Director	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Steve Scalise, a member of the relevant Energy and Commerce Committee.
Rep.	Kyrsten	Sinema	Michael	Brownlie	Deputy Chief of Staff	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Kyrsten Sinema, a member of the relevant House Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency caucus.
Rep.	Steve	Chabot	James	Burchfield	Professional Staff Member in the Committee on Small Business	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Steve Chabot, a member of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.
Rep.	Lois	Frankel	Aliyah	Dash	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Lois Frankel, a member of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.
Rep.	Gerry	Connolly	Collin	Davenport	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Gerry Connolly, a member of the relevant House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Rep.	Steve	Pearce	Jacci	Guy	Military Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Steve Pearce. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.
Rep.	Ted	Lieu	Corey	Jacobson	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Ted Lieu, a member of the relevant Israel Allies caucus.
Rep.	Jim	Sensenbrenner	Scott	Johnson	Clerk for the U.S. House Judiciary Committee	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.
Rep.	David	McKinley	Octavian	Jordan	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. David McKinley, a member of the relevant Energy and Commerce Committee.
Rep.	Mike	Simpson	Solara	Linehan	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Mike Simpson, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.
Rep.	Filemon	Vela	Julie	Merberg	Legislative Director	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Filemon Vela, a member of the relevant House Homeland Security Committee.
Rep.	Peter	Roskam	Omri	Rahmil	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Peter Roskam, a Chair of the relevant Congressional Republican Israel Allies caucus.
Rep.	Dina	Titus	David	Rosenbaum	Legislative Director	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Dina Titus. AIEF strives to provide educational programming to all Congressional staff that work in relevant issue areas.
Rep.	Ander	Crenshaw	Cate	Sadler	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Ander Crenshaw, a member of the relevant House Appropriations Committee.

Rep.	Donald	Norcross	Vincent	Sarubbi	Legislative Assistant	Handles foreign policy issues for Rep. Donald Norcross a member of the relevant House Armed Services Committee.
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